

PUBLIC

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EXTRA 18/01

Fear of torture/death penalty

1 March 2001

UNITED ARAB EMIRATES

Gary Dixon, British national, aged 55

British national Gary Dixon is reportedly facing extradition from Dubai to Saudi Arabia, in connection with car-bombings that took place in Riyadh and al-Khobar in November and December 2000 respectively. Amnesty International fears that he could face torture and execution in Saudi Arabia.

Approximately nine people are reported to be detained in Saudi Arabia in connection with the bombings. Some of them, including Alexander Mitchell, a British national, and Raf Skivens, a Belgian national, were shown on Saudi Arabian television on 4 February 2000 "confessing" to the bombings. Such confessions, however obtained, may be sufficient for a prisoner to be sentenced to death in Saudi Arabia.

Amnesty International wrote to the Prime Minister of the UAE on 23 February, urging him not to extradite Gary Dixon unless there were unequivocal assurances from the Saudi Arabian government that he would not be subjected to torture executed. Amnesty International fears that he may be extradited without such assurances being obtained from the Saudi Arabian government.

Amnesty International recognises the right of governments to try suspected offenders, but opposes the death penalty in all cases.

RECOMMENDED ACTION: Please send telegrams/telexes/faxes/express/airmail letters in English or your own language:

- urging the United Arab Emirates government not to extradite Gary Dixon without unequivocal assurances that he will not be subjected to torture or face execution.

APPEALS TO:

Prime Minister

His Highness Sheikh Maktoum bin Rashid Al-Maktoum
Prime Minister and Ruler of Dubai
Office of the Prime Minister
POB 12848, Dubai, United Arab Emirates

Faxes: + 971 4 435 3333

Salutation: Your Royal Highness

Minister of Justice & Islamic Affairs

His Excellency Mohammad Nukhairah al-Dhahiri
Minister of Justice & Islamic Affairs
Ministry of Justice & Islamic Affairs
PO Box 753 Abu Dhabi
United Arab Emirates

Telegrams: Justice Minister, Abu Dhabi, UAE

Faxes: + 971 4 282 5557

email: mojia@uae.gov.ae

Salutation: Your Excellency

COPIES TO:

Human Rights Department
Dubai Police General Headquarters

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PO Box 1493

Dubai, United Arab Emirates

Faxes: + 971 4 622 133

Salutation: To whom it may concern

and diplomatic representatives of the United Arab Emirates accredited to your country.

PLEASE SEND APPEALS IMMEDIATELY. Check with the International Secretariat, or your section office, if sending appeals after